

For immediate release: Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Contact: Oversight and Government Reform Press Office, (202) 225-5051

## **House Passes Government Efficiency, Effectiveness and Performance Improvement Act**

WASHINGTON – Chairman Edolphus “Ed” Towns (D-NY) released the following remarks in support of H.R. 2142, the Government Efficiency, Effectiveness and Performance Improvement Act. The legislation passed the House by a vote of 216-139 and now goes to the President for signature into law.

On May 20, 2010, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform passed H.R. 2142 by voice vote, followed by the House which passed the bill by voice vote on June 16, 2010. The Senate amended the bill and passed it by unanimous consent on December 16, 2010.

Chairman Towns’ full remarks:

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 2142, the Government Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Performance Improvement Act. I applaud Rep. Cuellar for his Herculean efforts in getting this bill through the process.

This is a common sense bill that will improve the performance of the federal government. This bill was approved by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform by voice vote on May 20, 2010.

The House passed the bill by voice vote on June 16, 2010.

The Senate amended the bill and passed it by unanimous consent on December 16, 2010.

H.R. 2142 modernizes and strengthens the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993.

This bill requires the Office of Management and Budget to develop governmentwide priority goals that cut across agency programs.

This will help agencies work together to reduce duplication and improve efficiencies.

This bill requires each agency to identify performance goals and to perform frequent performance reviews. This will provide agencies and Congress with the information needed to make responsible decisions regarding priorities and resources. The Senate amendments to the bill will improve the transparency of the performance management process by establishing a single website that will allow Congress and members of the public to access the results of performance assessments.

This legislation provides greater accountability by requiring agencies to consider input from Congress and members of the public when developing priorities and by requiring the Government Accountability Office to report to Congress on agency implementation of this

legislation.

The Senate amendments retain important provisions from the House-passed bill establishing performance improvement officers at each agency and establishing a performance improvement council. These are not new ideas as they were required by an Executive Order issued by President George W. Bush. Putting these provisions, as well as the rest of this bill in statute will provide a certain framework for both the current and future administrations.

A vote in favor of this bill is a vote in favor of an efficient, effective government. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

###